



Dept. of Public Health & Human Services, Helena

***Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2007***

I. Call to order

Dennis Maier, MD called to order the regular meeting of the **State Trauma Care Committee** at **1130** on **November 11, 2007** in **Helena, MT** and via MetNet in Billings.

II. Roll call

Roll call was conducted and the following persons were present:

Present: John Bleicher, Joe Hansen, Carol Kussman, William Taylor, and Jay Pottenger.

Absent: Drs. Greg Moore, Charles Swannack, Jim Bentler, and Kirby Peden, Mike McGree Pauline Linnelland Tim Sinton

Guests: Paula College, Kathy LaBaty, Laurie Jackson, Michelle Schaefer, Kim Todd, Jennie Nemec, Jim DeTienne, Bobbi Perkins, Sally Buckles, Gail Hatch, and Dayle Perrin.

Dr. Dennis Maier, Lyndy Gurchiek, Penny Clifton and Brad VonBergen attended via MetNet.

III. Handouts

- Agenda
- Meeting minutes
- 2008 Trauma Calendar
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive
- STCC Injury Prevention / EMS-C Update

IV. Open issues

6. EMS System Report – Jim DeTienne

- Jim introduced the new staff in the EMS and Trauma System Section. Kevin Fitzgerald is the new EMS System Manger and Mary Hill is the EMS Project Improvement Coordinator.
- JR5 legislation called for an interim legislative committee to study the current status for EMS in Montana. Their meetings are open to the public. This group will present a report of their findings before the next legislative session.

- University of Montana received a large grant to study automatic crash notification as part of the EMS system.

a) **Hospital Disaster Preparedness** – Dayle Perrin

- An update for the next HRSA hospital disaster preparedness grant program was given.
 - The HRSA grant funds for next year will continue to be used to support facilities seeking trauma facility designation through individual facility grants. The larger facilities already designated as trauma facilities will have funding available to work on community preparedness for pan flu.
 - Requests are being made to the RTACs to assist in the planning of equipment and supplies stockpiling for each region.

b) **Trauma System Update** – Kim Todd

- STCC meeting dates for 2008 were set. The dates are February 25, May 12, August 11, and November 17. The 2008 EMS and Trauma Systems calendar was provided to attendees.
- Most of the STCC members terms are ending in November 0f 2007. The positions that will be open and those who currently fill those positions are:
 - American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) - Jim Bentler
 - Trauma Coordinator – John Bleicher
 - Eastern RTAC representatives (2) – Kirby Peden and Joe Hansen
 - Indian Health Service (HIS) – unfilled
 - Central RTAC (2) – Time Sinton and Carol Kussman
 - Montana EMS Association (MEMSA) – Pauline Linnell
 - Private Ambulance Operators – Mike McGree
 - Western RTAC (1) – Greg Moore
 - Montana Hospital Association (MHA) – Jay Pottenger
 - Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) – William Taylor
- *For those interested in applying for one of these governor appointments or for a reappointment go to the internet eGovernment section of mt.gov. There is a section to 'Serve on a Montana Board or Council' at <http://mt.gov/services/government.asp>. This takes you to the application and select "Trauma Care Committee" at the top of the application and then complete.*
- Follow-up on the Uniform Accident and Sickness Policy Provision Law (UPPL) that allows insurers to deny coverage to individuals injured as a result of being under the influence of alcohol or narcotics. Many states have repealed this law but it remains in effect for Montana. At this time information on one trauma patient who may have been denied coverage limits our ability to move further on this issue.
 - *Penny Clifton agreed to take the lead on this issue. After the meeting she provided the following information.*
 - 1. There is an acute alcohol intoxication ICD-9 code 305.0. Consider having Patient Accounts pull the records of the patients from the registry who were intoxicated and see if this code was used in billing and correlate that with any denials.*
 - 2. With the new billing code for alcohol interventions, that CPT code presents another way to query for denials. This code may not exist in your ChargeMaster so you may have to work on that. You could begin education on this code with your billing department.*
 - 3. Usually, denials are an all or nothing issue with an item such as this. They don't pay part of the claim if the alcohol is an issue, they don't pay any of it. Consider looking for accounts with complete denials AND intoxication may produce something.*

- A question was received from a facility regarding midlevel providers taking the ATLS course. The American College of Surgeons will not verify midlevel providers but they can still be held to the same standard of successful completion.
 - *ACTION: The committee recommended to change resource criteria to read successful completion of ATLS for midlevel providers.*
- A goal has been identified to pursue a similar process for individuals and facilities to request education funds from each of the RTACs so that the process is fair and equal.
 - *ACTION: This issue will be discussed in each of the RTAC meetings and then brought back to the next STCC meeting.*
- The State trauma system has limited general funds to support the system but we have been successful in developing partnerships with those administering the HRSA emergency preparedness grant and the Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF) which administers the rural flex grant. Flex grant funds this year will support trauma education through ATLS and TNCC proliferation.

VII. Sub-committee Reports

- Information Systems / Performance Improvement** (Chairperson Brad Pickhardt)
 - Report given by Jennie Nemec. PI indicators were covered in the review of data. Trauma Registry:
 - Collector Upgrade/update is to be provided by DI. The format will change a little but there will be enhancements and ACS National Data Standards will be incorporated into the new version. DI will provide ACS facilities with a “best-mapping” module to assist with data reporting to ACS in time for the ACS call for data in 2008.
 - A web-based format for small facilities currently using paper abstracts is being explored
- Public Advocacy / Legislation** (Chairperson Jim Bentler)
 - No report
- Education** (Chairperson John Bleicher)
 - **TEAM:** TEAM re-write is that all slides will be done by Thanksgiving and the material will be disseminated for final review. We should plan on being able to schedule courses by January 1, 2008.
 - **Rocky Mountain Rural Trauma Symposium:** John has requested information about the financial arrangement with the Burns Telecommunication Center, as well as a discussion about what support we can expect from them. The subject of CME/CEU credits was broached. Procuring these is a lot of work and expense and some feel that very few attendees really care about the credits. Members were asked to discuss this at their next RTAC meetings.
 - **NPs/PAs:** There is interest in holding a trauma conference for mid-levels in the eastern half of the state next year. She also mentioned partnering with MHA. St. Pat’s put on their inaugural mid-level conference this year and will be holding next year’s on April 18. John expressed both his willingness to share any course materials they have and his concerns about partnerships.
 - **MT TNC/Registrar Meeting:** This will be held in Helena on February 25, 2008. The Wyoming State Trauma System Manager will bring the course she developed on helping new Trauma Coordinators learn their roles.

d) **Organization / Emergency Preparedness** (Chairperson Tim Sinton)

Jennie Nemec provided an overview on the plans to evaluate/utilize Basic & Advanced Disaster Life Support courses as the next step in developing MT medical assistance teams and Incident Command System (ICS) for EMS providers. Federal support and attention has waned.

e) **Injury Prevention / EMSC Oversight** (Chairperson Kirby Peden)

Bobbi Perkins provided an update on activities surrounding primary seatbelt legislation and other injury prevention activities. The EMS for Children grant projects were reviewed. Summary attached.

V. RTAC Reports

a) **Western RTAC** given by John Bleicher

Meeting minutes attachment 1.

- The next meeting will be January 11, 2008 hosted by Community Medical Center.

b) **Central RTAC** given by Laurie Jackson.

Meeting minutes attachment 2.

- The next meeting will be February 7, 2008 hosted by Benefis HealthCare.

c) **Eastern RTAC** given by Penny Clifton

Meeting minutes attachment 3.

- The next meeting will be December 13, 2007 hosted by Billings Clinic.

VI. Public Comment

None received.

VII. Adjournment

Chairman Dennis Maier adjourned the meeting.

The **next State Trauma Care Committee** meeting will be held in Helena on **February 25, 2008**.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Kim Todd

ATTACHMENT

STCC Injury Prevention / EMS-C Update

11/5/2007

1. Montana Seat Belt Coalition

- a. Sponsored by AAA
- b. Bill will be drafted earlier than in the past
- c. Encourage folks to talk to candidates and only vote in those that support the bill
- d. Hwy Patrol report to Media about seat belt use for fatality / injury crashes
- e. County commissioners are constituents many legislators listen to – get your message to them
- f. Blogs are great places to interject the message of seat belt use

- g. MT Nurses Association / MT Health Care Providers / MT Hwy Patrol / MT Motor Carriers Association / MT Child and Maternal Health Lobbyist / Mike Foster from St. Vincent Hospital / Yellowstone City-County Health Department / David Huff – OPI / Dept of Justice
- h. State Seat Belt website – MTs for a primary law
- i. Looking to bring on the PTA and Taverns Association – what other organizations should be invited to the table?
- j. Next steps
 - i. Primary seat belt bill only – no child safety seat specification
 - ii. Primary seat belt and child safety bill
 - iii. Public perception survey
 - iv. Next meeting – not scheduled yet, but will be sometime late November early December.
 - v. Denice Harris – 447-8130

2. Injury Prevention Activities

- a. EMS-C priorities
- b. IP Workplan 2007 / June 2008
 - i. Injury report
 - ii. IP Coalition
 - iii. Strategic plan – what programs to implement and evaluate over the next two years – preliminary goals:
 - 1. reduce the rate of unintentional poisonings
 - 2. Increase the use of helmets (mc, bicycle, equestrian, snowboarding, skateboarding)
 - 3. Reduce the rate of death and injury for senior falls
 - 4. Reduce the rate of youth-related ATV injuries
 - 5. Reduce the rate of death and injury from unrestrained mvc
 - 6. Increase the rate of child safety / booster seat usage
 - 7. Quarterly surveillance reports
 - 8. Annual injury report
 - 9. Funding secured for IP Coordinator and possibly injury epidemiologist
 - iv. Website
 - v. Secure funding
- c. Poison Control / unintentional poisonings study
- d. Smoke alarm program – wrapped up five year project, extended carryover funds for reservation program through 12/31/2007
- e. Surveillance reports – BRFSS and seat belt use / Youth risk assessment and restraint use – Feb. 2008

3. EMS-C projects

- a. Site Visit by national resource center; review performance measures and made recommendations; Report will be coming and will be made available on our website
- b. Mtg Highlights
 - i. Revise EMS law to require ambulance services to stock pediatric equipment (BLS and ALS)
 - ii. Bring BOME Medical Board onboard with EMSC priorities
 - iii. Ambulance licensing / inspection process to review pediatric equipment

- iv. Work towards designating / identifying which health care facilities have the resources to care for sick / injured children
 - v. EMSC coordinator full time and dedicated solely to EMSC
- c. MT EMSC webpage on our EMS website
- d. PEPP courses –
- e. Jumpstart -
- f. Regional EMSC Coordinators to take the lead for PEPP, Jumpstart, Injury Prevention activity, etc.
- g. Surveys – EMT Telephone survey, EMS Manager Survey, Hospital Survey – data will be received and analyzed by the end of November